

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 HEW-02 SSO-00

INRE-00 /081 W

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P R 252000Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7497

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 1564

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, JM

SUBJECT: COMMONWEALTH HEADSOF GOVERNMENT MEETING (CHGM)

REF: KINGSTON 1375 (NOTAL)

DEPARTMENT PASS INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE

1. WITH CHGM DUE TO OPEN APRIL 29, GOJ HAS CONFIRMATION THAT, WITH EXCEPTION OF KENYA, MALAWAI, GHANA, UGANDA, TRINIDAD, AND NAURU, ALL COMMONWEALTH MEMBERS WILL BE REPRESENTED BY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT

2. COMMONWEALTH SECGEN ARNOLD SMITH PREDICTED TO PRESS ON ARRIVAL KINGSTON APRIL 24 THAT CHGM WILL MAKE PROGRESS ON TWO KEY ISSUES--INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE MADE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSAL SPONSORED BY JAMAICA AND KENYA FOR THE CREATION OF A COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENT BANK, SAYING HE EXPECTED AGREEMENT ON THIS, AS THERE HAD BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE FROM SEVERAL COMMONWEALTH LEADERS. SMITH BASED HIS
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EXPECTATIONS FOR PROGRESS ON THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN QUESTION

ON THE FACT THAT ". . .THE CARDS ARE NOW IN OUR HANDS. . .
IN THE HANDS OF FREE PEOPLE . . .SUCH AS FRELIMO". SMITH'S
EXPECTATIONS OF SUBSTANTIVE CHGM RESULTS CLOSELY COINCIDE
WITH THOSE PM MANLEY RELATED TO AMBASSADOR (REFTEL).

3. ON EVE QUEEN'S ARRIVAL AND OPENING OF CHGM APRIL 29
GOJ IS PREOCCUPED WITH SECURITY PREPARATIONS AND
POSSIBILITY OF INCIDENTS AND/OR WILDCAT STRIKES DESIGNED
TO EMBARRASS THE GOVERNMENT. EARLIER THIS WEEK, IN TOUGH
PUBLIC TALK TO HOTEL AND CONFERENCE PERSONNEL, MINISTER
P J PATTERSON EMPHASIZED THAT KINGSTON WIL BE CENTER
OF MEDIA ATTENTION AND THAT JAMAICANS MUST AVOID AT
ALL COSTS ACTIONS WHICH WOULD RESULT IN COUNTRY RECEIVING
A BAD PRESS. SPEAKING FURTHER ON SECURITY THE MINISTER
SAID THAT "THE THREAT WAS NOT FROM WITHIN BUT FROM
WITHOUT" AND CHARGED HIS AUDIENCE TO REPORT ANYTHING
THAT LOOKS SUSPICIOUS.

4. REACTING TO A WILDCAT STRIKE BY HOSPITAL WORKERS
AND THREATENED WALKOUTS BY BUS TRANSPORT WORKERS AND
GASOLINE STATION ATTENDANTS, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
COORE WENT ON TELEVISION LAST NIGHT TO DELIVER A MOST DIRECT
AND UNAMBIGUOUS STATEMENT TO THE WORKERS. COORE TOLD
THE HOSPITAL WORKERS THAT IF THEY DID NOT REPORT BACK
TO THEIR JOBS WITHIN 24 HOURS THAT THEY WOULD BE
TREATED AS HAVING TERMINATED THEIR EMPLOYMENT. COORE
CHARGED THAT THE WORKERS WERE BEING "INCITED TO ACT
IN A DANGEROUS MANNER" AND CALLED ON THEM "TO STOP
AND THINK BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE". GERARD

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